Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 3 (canceled)

1   Claim 4 (previously presented): A method of securing document content using security

2   containers, comprising the step of encapsulating, within a security container, an encrypted version

3   of a document component, an encrypted version of conditional logic for controlling operations on

4   the document component, and key distribution information usable for controlling access to the

5   document component, wherein:

6   the encrypted version of the document component and the encrypted version of the

7   conditional logic are both encrypted using a first key;

8   the key distribution information comprises at least two key elements; and

9   each key element comprises (i) an identification of a user, a group of users, a process, or

10   group of a processes that is authorized to access the document component; and (ii) an encrypted

11   version of the first key, wherein the encrypted version of the first key comprises the first key

12   encrypted using a second key that is usable only by the identified user, user group, process, or

13   process group for decrypting the encrypted version of the first key, thereby enabling that user,

14   group of users, process, or groups of processes to obtain the first key and use it for decrypting the

15   document component and the conditional logic.

Claim 5 (canceled)

1   Claim 6 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the first key

2   comprises a symmetric key.

1   Claim 7 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 6, wherein the second key

2   comprises, for each of the key elements, a public key associated with the identified user, process,

3   group of users, or group of processes.

Claim 8 (canceled)

1   Claim 9 (original): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the conditional logic further

2   controls access to the document component.

1   Claim 10 (original): The method according to Claim 9, wherein the key distribution information

2   further controls access to the conditional logic.

Claim 11 (canceled)

1   Claim 12 (original): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the security container is encoded

2   in structured document format.

1   Claim 13 (original): The method according to Claim 12, wherein the structured document format

2   is Extensible Markup Language ("XML") format.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein at least one of the
key elements identifies a group of users and wherein the users in the group are determined
dynamically, upon receiving a request to access to the document component.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the dynamic
determination further comprises accessing a repository where the users in the group are identified.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 4, further comprising the steps
of:

    receiving, from a requester, a request to access the document component;

    programmatically determining, using the key distribution information, whether the
requester is authorized to access the document component by determining whether, in any
selected one of the key elements, the requester is the identified user or the identified process or is
a member of the identified group of users or the identified group of processes, and if so,
performing steps of:

    decrypting the encrypted version of the first key from the selected one of the key
elements using the second key usable by that requester, thereby obtaining the first key;

    decrypting the encrypted version of the conditional logic using the first key,
thereby obtaining the conditional logic;

13   decrypting the encrypted version of the document component using the first key,

14   thereby obtaining the document component; and

15   programmatically evaluating, using the conditional logic, whether the request can

16   be granted; and

17   rejecting the request when the programmatically determining step has a negative result.

1   Claim 18 (original): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the conditional logic evaluates

2   at least one of: an identity of the requester; a device used by the requester; a context of the

3   requester; a zone of an application used by the requester; a user profile of the requester; and a

4   target destination of the request.

Claims 19 - 32 (canceled)

1   Claim 33 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the encrypted

2   version of the first key in each key element is further encrypted using a secret key known to code

3   implementing the security containers.

1   Claim 34 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the encrypted

2   version of the first key in each key element is encrypted using a secret key known to code

3   implementing the security containers instead of using the second key, and the second key is then

4   used to further encrypt a result of encrypting the first key using the secret key.